

CIA Outdoing Red Counterpart, Senator Says

CPYRGHT

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — A senator just back from an inspection trip around the world said Wednesday the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is doing a better job than its Soviet counterpart, and with less men.

Sen. Milton R. Young, (R., N.D.), based his conclusion on a top-secret tour of CIA posts in 14 countries and American military installations in 15 foreign nations.

He made the trip as a member of the Special Senate subcommittee authorized to examine in detail the CIA's multi-million dollar budget — the actual amount of which is "hidden" in budgets of other agencies.

"I was not quite satisfied that I was voting intelligently on their appropriation requests," Young said in explaining the purpose of his trip.

Young said he was tremendously impressed by operations of CIA agents throughout the world. He added: "Their work is far more effective than the

public generally gives them credit for."

"Their results are better than those of the Russian KGB, the Soviet counterpart, even though the Russians have more than twice as many personnel," Young declared.

The North Dakota Republican said some previous criticism of CIA may have been

justified, but he added that "it is a far better organization now than in the years past."

Young praised the administration of CIA Director John A. McCone. "He is as good a man as we could have," Young said. "It would be unfortunate if he were replaced."

The senator said he found U.S. military installations overseas at a high state of preparedness, "ready to fight almost immediately if they have to."

A helicopter flight over South Viet Nam persuaded him that the proposal to bomb supply lines of the North Vietnamese might do some good, Young

said.

"But it's not as important as many persons think it is," he said.